THE WINSFORD ACADEMY

16th September 2024



Ms Emma McLaren
Principal

Message from the Principal

Dear Winsford Families,

It has been another brilliant week at Winsford Academy. Both students and staff continue to give me a wonderful welcome, with lots of students excited to tell me about what they are learning, their interests and reflections about the start of this academic year.

I am absolutely thrilled about the 'strong start' students have made and would like to take this opportunity to thank families for all of their support. The vast majority of students demonstrate 'The Winsford Way', wearing full school uniform, arrive to their lessons on time, engage with their learning and use respectful language. It is very early days, but student behaviour and achievement data has significantly improved with staff also reflecting how students are stepping up to refreshed expectations.

This week we finalised the assessment calendar. Regular assessments will take place throughout the year with staff using the information to inform both curriculum and lesson planning. If your child previously had low attendance, please be assured that regular in class assessment strategies will be used to identify and reteach any gaps in knowledge. A key academy priority is for all students, including those with previously low attendance attend school every day. We know that good attendance to school supports positive peer relationships which is a good for mental health and wellbeing.

On Saturday, I had the pleasure of meeting students and parents who visited the academy as part of 'The Music Career Expo'. The Head of Music, Mr Bancroft and students were clearly inspired by the talks and performances with students playing instruments in music practice rooms and singing in 'the street'.

Again, many thanks to families that have signed up to forthcoming events, I look forward to meeting more parents this week to further strengthen our partnership and discuss future planning.

Checking for Understanding & Assessment at Winsford Academy

Within planning, teachers and teaching assistants plan in class assessment strategies to check for understanding and identify any knowledge gaps. Alongside daily strategies, there will be 'academy assessment weeks', which will involve students sitting assessments in exam conditions.

Winsford Academy Assessment Calendar: Cycle 1		
Weeks/Dates	**Year Group**	**Type of Assessment**
Weeks 7 & 8 14-10-24 21-10-24	**Year 10**	**Transition Exams** Assessment of knowledge & review of transition to GCSE/Qualification subjects
Weeks 9 & 10 04-11-24 11-11-24	**Year 11**	**Year 11 College Entry Exams - Mock Exams 1** Assessment of knowledge. Information will also support predictions for college applications
Weeks 13 & 14 02-12-24 09-12-24	**Year 7**	**Key Stage 3 Assessments** Assessment of knowledge & review of transition to secondary school
	Year 8	**Key Stage 3 Assessments** Assessment of knowledge & review of progress through the KS3 curriculum
Weeks 17 & 18 13-01-24 20-01-24	**Year 9**	**Key Stage 3 Assessments** Assessment of knowledge & review of progress through the KS3 curriculum. Information will also support discussions during the KS4 Option Process

Year 11 Parent Information Evening – Thursday 26th September

To ensure students are fully prepared for their mock exams, we are hosting a Parent Information evening on **Thursday 26th September 2024.**

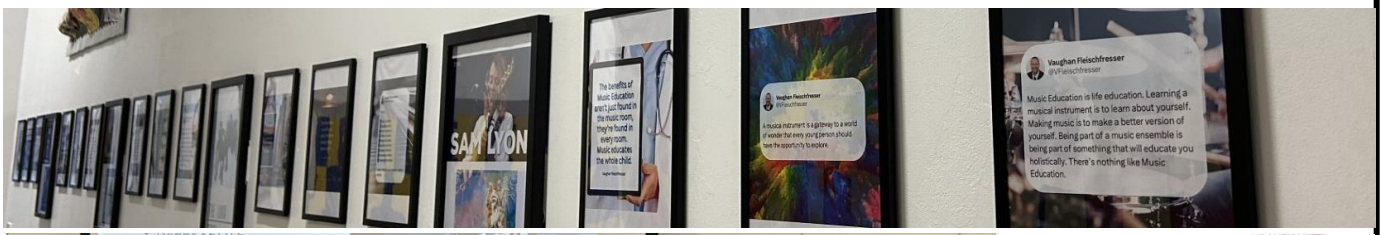
Representatives from local colleges will also attend the event to discuss future pathways and answer any of your questions.

Students or parents that attend the event will receive a £5 discount on their prom ticket and will receive a revision pack containing resources on the evening.

If you haven't done so already, please follow the link below to secure a place.

https://forms.office.com/e/rX01trUTAF

In Pictures: The Music Career Expo, Saturday 14th September

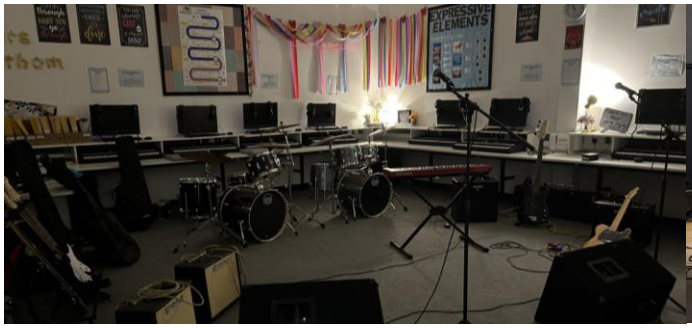














Football Tournament at Hartford Church of England High School



On Wednesday 11th September, Year 8 Boys football team (with 2 guest Year 7 players) played in a 7 a side tournament at Hartford High School in the rain!

Played 6 games, won 4, drawn 2 (Overall winners)

Goals from Archie, Tom & Isaac x 2 (Year 7)

Great performance by keeper Evan (Year 7)

Mr Freeman

Winsford Academy Coffee Morning

On Friday 27th September, we are hosting a coffee morning in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support. Throughout the morning staff will be able to purchase cakes and sweet treats.



We would be very grateful of any donations whether that be shop bought or homemade.

If you would like to make a cake donation, please follow the link below:

https://forms.office.com/e/AqN1isN0Km



MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.